

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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TOSEC 926

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM LISBON 22 MAR 75:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1634

DEPT PLEASE PASS IMMEDIATE INFO TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJ: SENATOR BUCKLEY'S STATEMENT ON PORTUGAL

1. PRESS TODAY CARRIES SENATOR BUCKLEY'S STATEMENT ON PORTUGAL. TWO OF THREE NEWSPAPERS HIGHLIGHT MILITARY INTERVENTION AS ONE OPTION. DIARIO DE NOTICIAS, IN AN UNUSUAL MOVE, FOLLOWED COLUMN WITH NOTE FROM THE EDITOR EMPHASIZING THAT BUCKLEY WAS ONLY ONE SENATOR AND DID NOT SPEAK FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, GOP HAS BEEN OBLIGED TO DENY CONSISTENTLY RUMORS OF AMERICAN INVASION FORCE OFF PORTUGUESE SHORES. POSSIBILITY OF U.S. INVASION IS WIDELY

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BELIEVED HERE, EVEN BY PEOPLE WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER.

3. IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS, SUGGEST FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE BE DELIVERED TO SENATOR BUCKLEY WHO KNOWS ME PERSONALLY: QUOTE CAN APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN OVER EVENTS IN PORTUGAL. ANTI-AMERICAN FEELING IS RUNNING VERY HIGH AND FEARS OF POSSIBLE U.S. INVASION ARE WIDELY BELIEVED. ANY SUGGESTION FROM PROMINENT FIGURES THAT THIS COULD BE A POSSIBILITY COULD SPARK VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICANS, PARTICULARLY SINCE LOCAL PRESS ATTEMPTS TO DISTORT EVERYTHING WE SAY. BEST PERSONAL REGARD. UNQUOTE

4. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH CONVEY SENSE THIS MESSAGE TO OTHER SENATORS AS APPROPRIATE. CARLUCCI UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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